

MINUTES  
Ben Harrison Camp #356  
Saturday, March 14, 2015

**Call to Order:** Commander Beck called the meeting to order.

**Roll Call of Officers:** Present were Commander, Patriotic Instructor, and Memorial Officer Beck; Jr. Vice-Commander, Signals Officer, Graves Registration Officer, and Camp Council Member Beckman; and Secretary and Historian Thompson. In all, seven brothers were present.

**Secretary's Report:** The minutes were approved as read.

**Treasurer's Report:** The treasurer's report was approved as presented.

**Brothers in Distress:** Brother Winters is sick today. Brother Morey [REDACTED].

Brother Beckman's Dad [REDACTED].

**Application Received:** The camp was pleased to welcome one new brother: William Roland Conrad, who derives his membership from his great great grandfather Jacob Conrad, who served as a private in Co. E of the 30<sup>th</sup> Indiana Infantry.

**Reports of Officers, Old and New Business:**

- Camp Medal: Brother Winters had sent some information about the cost of the new medals. We decided to wait until he is here to discuss this more.
- Vicksburg monument update: Brother Beck reported that in mid September, the monument may be moved back onto park property. They will need to redo a few of the state seals. The Mississippi National Guard will use a Chinook helicopter to lift the monument and move it to its new place.
- Cemetery Cleaning: We will be cleaning in the Mooresville Cemetery again. Brother Beck will check on this.
- Camp Wench and Come-a-long: The camp moved to invest in buying a camp wench and come-a-long to make lifting headstones easier when we are cleaning cemeteries.
- BioWash: Brother Beckman will buy 5 gallons of Biowash before the next meeting.
- Ball Caps: Brother Bowyer will check about buying more ball caps if we want to get more of them.
- Lincoln Death Train: The Lincoln Death Train is not coming to Indianapolis.
- State House event: On April 7, the Lincoln casket will be at the State House. Brother Beck will talk to Brother Kolb to see if the SVR will be at this event or not.
- Lincoln Tomb Cemetery: The Lincoln Tomb Ceremony will be held on April 11. The SVR will be at this event. Brother Beck will be at Appomattox Court House that day accepting the surrender of the South on behalf of the 20<sup>th</sup> Indiana.

During the break, Brother Beck gave a presentation on his ancestor.

After the break, we continued with:

- April meeting: Brother Beck wants to move our April meeting date to April 18, since several brothers will be away on April 11. We will meet on April 18.
- July meeting: Brother Beck proposed we meet on July 11 and skip the January meeting date, since the mid-winter encampment occurs that month and weather seems to cancel several of our camp meetings in January. We will meet in July. We are also moving the September and October meetings to the third Saturday of the month, due to other schedule conflicts. The Auxiliary will also meet on this dates.
- Vernon Civil War Days: Vernon is holding their Civil War Days on April 25-26. Descendants are invited to participate with the reenactors in the Peace (Union Victory) parade on April 25 or the Lincoln Funeral Parade on April 26. There will be a number of additional activities that weekend.

- Donation to Post 500: The camp moved to give the American Legion Post 500 [REDACTED] for allowing us to use the rooms for our meetings. The secretary gave them our check and the schedule for next year's meetings after the meeting.
- Patriotic Instruction: Brother Beck read a letter written March 12, 1865 from William T. Sherman to Ulysses S. Grant about destroying the arsenals in South and North Carolina. Brother Bowyer showed a picture of two brothers of his ancestor, Andrew Jackson Johnson and Nathaniel Johnson. He will give a presentation later based on Andrew's diary.
- April 18: Sister Thompson will give a presentation next month on "Abe F. Springsteen: Unique celebration for fiftieth anniversary of enlisting in the Civil War."
- Eagle Scout: Brother Bowyer will send an email about Gage's Eagle Scout ceremony to submit to the Banner.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned with appropriate ceremony by the camp.

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Jerry Thompson, Secretary

Mike Beck, Commander

Date